Conversion of telephone calls upto 500 km. into local calls

†790. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert telephone calls upto 500 km. into local calls; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) At present there is no proposal under consideration to convert telephonic calls up to 500 km into local calls.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Upgradation of branch post Offices in HP.

791. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to upgrade branch post offices in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the district-wise and constituency-wise and category-wise details; and

(c) me number of branch post offices working at present in the State, district-wise and constituency- wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal under consideration to upgrade any branch post office in Himachal Pradesh.

(c) District-wise and constituency-wise number of branch post offices working at present in the State is given in the statement enclosed.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

District-wise number of branch post offices working at present in Himachal Pradesh

Sl.No.	Name of District	Number of Branch post offices
1.	Bilaspur	115
2.	Chamba	196
3.	Hamirpur	173
4.	Kangra	536
5.	Kinnaur	59
6.	Kullu	129
7.	Lahaul & Spiti	38
a	Mandi	307
9.	Shimla	280
10.	Sirmour	157
11.	Solan	152
11	Una	150
	TOTAL	2292

Constituency-wise Number of branch post offices working at present m Himachal Pradesh

SL No.	Name of Constituency	Number of Branch post offices
1.	Hamirpur	533
2.	Mandi	610
3.	Shimla	554
4.	Kangra	595
	TOTAL	2292

Duty on Cellular Pbones

792. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact mat the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has proposed duty on cellular phones;